United Nations E/AC.51/2015/L.4/Add.2

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
12 June 2015

Original: English

Committee for Programme and Coordination
Fifty-fifth session
1-26 June 2015
Agenda item 7
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-fifth session

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Joseph Marie **Fouda Ndi** (Cameroon)

Addendum

Programme questions: evaluation
(*Item 3 (b)*)

Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the evaluation of the International Trade Centre

1. At its 5th meeting, on 3 June 2015, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on the evaluation of the International Trade Centre (ITC) (E/AC.51/2015/8).

2. The Director of the Inspection and Evaluation Division of OIOS introduced the report and, together with a representative of ITC, responded to questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Delegations expressed appreciation for the report and agreement with the OIOS assessment of the work of ITC, in particular its effectiveness, its proactivity and its specific efforts at supporting least developed and landlocked countries. The receptivity of ITC to the evaluation report was also welcomed. Delegations took note of the shortcomings reflected in the conclusions and recommendations of the report in areas such as monitoring and programme planning, expressing agreement that ITC should become more focused on results, for example through more strategic project prioritization and greater attention to outcome-focused monitoring and evaluation. Delegations recognized that strengthening those areas would be necessary if ITC were to achieve the objectives of its 2015-2017 strategic plan and 2016-2017 strategic framework and to measure its success against those objectives

15-09694 (E) 170615

Please recycle

and respond to the needs of its clients and beneficiaries. In that regard, delegations sought clarification from OIOS as to what such measures of success might look like.

4. Delegations requested clarification on progress achieved in implementing the recommendations made in the report and on the relationship between the recommendations and those emanating from an independent evaluation conducted in 2014 that had been referenced in the report. Delegations took note of the Centre's efforts to mobilize further non-earmarked and "soft"-earmarked extrabudgetary resources.

5. One delegation, taking note of progress made in mainstreaming social issues such as gender and youth, sought clarification as to how those areas could be mainstreamed through a demand-driven approach in the implementation of the other recommendations proposed in the report and measured against indicators of achievement.

6. Clarification was sought regarding recommendation 2, which indicated that ITC should incrementally adopt a more holistic, data-driven approach to planning and budgeting while still seeking alignment with donor and client priorities. In that regard, one delegation said that ITC should continue to be guided by the biennial workplan of subprogramme 6 in the operational aspects of trade promotion and export development, which had been endorsed by Member States.

Conclusions and recommendations

7. **The Committee recommended that the General Assembly should endorse the recommendations contained in paragraphs 55 to 60 of the report of OIOS on the evaluation of ITC.**

8. **The Committee noted that the report contained useful recommendations to improve the performance of ITC and that most validated the outcomes of the independent evaluation of ITC completed in June 2014.**

9. **The Committee encouraged ITC to target the regions, countries and industries most in need of its expertise.**